



Mahu West Pest

JULY 2022



Control, Monitor, Adapt, Enhance, and Repeat to Protect Mahurangi West

Kia Ora Mahurangi West peninsula and Hungry Creek residents and land owners. Welcome to Mahu West Pest's eNews no.18 updating you on our dedicated volunteer organisation.

Natives replace pest weeds in Jamieson Bay

Thanks to a great turnout at 9am on Saturday 23 July, we had a 15-strong team digging out invasive agapanthus and tradescantia over two sites on the Jamieson Bay Esplanade Reserve (to either side of the boat ramp). Half of the 200 native specimens, donated by Auckland Council's Community Parks & Recreation, were planted in a random pattern above a small area of coastal erosion. Special thanks to Mike Jenkin and Cathy Brehmer for devising a great plan for this difficult site. The other half were laid out in a more formal pattern on the site overlooking the bay. Great work team!



Special thanks to all our volunteers and to Paul Jamieson for an even earlier start, loading up hundreds of natives for the morning's Planting Bee and setting out the back row of Hebe stricta and Phormium cookianum or Mountain Flax as a guide.

Working together for success ... Mahu West Pest making a difference

Director Holly Fleming from Terra Pura Consulting says, "I just want to pass on some good news from local resident Colleen about the culverts and flooding on Rangi Road that members of Mahu West Pest showed us awhile back."

Colleen said, "The stormwater maintenance contractors have cleared the vegetation/debris from the culvert under the road that the public said blocked frequently and caused flooding on the road corridor. This culvert is now on the contractor's list to clear 2-3 times per year to ensure vegetation does not clog it up."

"Thanks MWP for bringing this to our attention and to let you know that something is being done about it," said Holly.

Trapping Results for July

View MWP's TrapNZ records (opposite) for this month, the previous year, and since our project began. This month, volunteers trapped, recorded and removed 105 pests from our environment and many more that we cannot quantify through bait stations. Seven new traps were deployed and three bait stations.

Celebrating Matariki with kūtai mussel regeneration



Brian Bramell, Mahu West Pest (left) and Jonathan Peacey, New Zealand Program Director of The Nature Conservancy deploying kūtai in coastal bays.

Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust is working in collaboration with Revive Our Gulf as kaitiaki and tiaki. Their mission is to restore te moana with a focus on their rohe or tribal areas. Ngāti Manuhiri is dedicated to deploying 150 tonnes of kūtai (mussel spat) sustainably and effectively into te moana in order to regenerate mussel beds.

As a special event in celebration of the first ever national public holiday for Matariki, on June 24, an invited contingent boarded boats at Sandspit for the short trip out to Motu Reka Reka and Motu Kete Kete. These islands lie off Martins Bay, just north of the mouth of the Mahurangi Harbour. A karakia was initially held at Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust Office, in Warkworth.

Representatives from many of the organisations contributing to and supporting the program took part in this ceremonial deployment of mussels.

Tenā koutou Ngāti Manuhiri for an excellent celebration of Matariki and a VERY worthwhile program.

Traps:	712		
Bait Stations:	278		
Monitoring Stations:	1		
	Total	365 Days	30 Days
Possum:	1153	1012	49
Rat:	650	444	36
Hedgehog:	98	61	1
Mustelid:	40	33	3
Other:	323	236	16
Total:	2264	1786	105

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